## CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. A headgear, comprising:

an outer shell having a continuous lower rim and a hollow dome extending from said lower rim to a central crown, said lower rim and dome collectively defining a forward portion, a rearward portion, and lateral portions of said outer shell;

an inner liner nested in the dome of said outer shell, said inner liner having a continuous lower rim and a hollow dome extending from said lower rim to a central crown to provide a head receiving cavity, said lower rim and said dome collectively defining a forward portion, a rearward portion, and lateral portions of said inner liner;

a headband, said headband having a forward portion and lateral portions respectively secured to said inner liner forward and lateral portions, and further including a rearward portion extending rearwardly from said headband lateral portions;

a venting system, said venting system including:

a first vent aperture formed in said crown of said outer shell;

a second vent aperture formed in said crown of said inner liner; and

said first and second vent apertures being in fluid communication with each other to provide a primary pathway for air flow between said head-receiving cavity and ambient air outside of said headgear; and

a plurality of third vent apertures formed in said inner liner in spaced relationship with said second vent apertures.

2. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said third vent apertures are in fluid communication with said first and second vent apertures.

3. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said third vent apertures are elongated.

4. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein some of said third vent apertures are situated on said forward portion of said inner liner and other of said third vent apertures are situated on said rearward portion of said inner liner.

5. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of each of said third vent apertures extends completely through said inner liner.

6. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said third vent apertures comprise elongated channels and holes extending through said inner liner.

7. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 wherein there are four of said vent apertures.

8. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1 further including a fabric inner lining, said lining having at least one opening therein in fluid communication with said third vent apertures.

9. A headgear in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said venting system further includes an outer finial retained on said outer shell to cover said first vent aperture, said finial having a raised button-shaped appearance and air flow passages that are in fluid communication with said first aperture.

10. A headgear in accordance with Claim 9 further including an inner escutcheon located on an inner side of said outer shell and having air flow passages in fluid communication with said first and second apertures, said finial and said escutcheon being secured together such that said finial is retained on said headgear by said escutcheon.

11. A headgear shaped as an equestrian riding helmet, said headgear having an air vent system, comprising:

a central aperture system formed in said headgear at a central uppermost portion thereof, said central aperture system including inner and outer central aperture portions respectively associated with inner and outer sides of said helmet; and

a peripheral aperture system associated with said inner side of said helmet and in spaced relationship with said central aperture system.

12. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system is in fluid communication with said central aperture system.

13. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system comprises elongated apertures.

14. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system comprises first vent apertures associated with a forward portion of said headgear and second vent apertures associated with a rearward portion of said headgear.

15. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said peripheral aperture system comprises apertures formed as elongated channels and holes.

16. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 wherein there said peripheral aperture system comprises four vent apertures.

17. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11 further including a fabric inner lining, said lining having at least one opening therein in fluid communication with said peripheral aperture system.

18. A headgear in accordance with Claim 11, wherein said vent system further includes an outer finial associated with said outer side of said headgear, said finial having a raised button-shaped appearance and air flow passages that are in fluid communication with said central aperture system.

19. A headgear in accordance with Claim 18 further including an inner escutcheon associated with an inner side of said headgear and having air flow passages in fluid communication with said central aperture system, said finial and said escutcheon being secured together such that said finial is retained on said headgear by said escutcheon.

20. A headgear, shaped as an equestrian riding helmet, said headgear having an air vent system, comprising:

a central aperture system formed in said headgear at a central uppermost portion thereof;

a peripheral aperture system formed in said headgear in spaced relationship with said central aperture system;

an escutcheon associated with an inner side of said headgear;

a finial associated with an outer side of said headgear and secured to said escutcheon; and

said escutcheon and said finial each including vented portions extending in said central aperture system.